

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A clamping mechanism for securing a slideable member to a slide track, wherein the slide track has a channel with spaced apart side walls, a bottom and an open top, and having a width at the bottom greater than a width at the top to form a restricted entrance opening ~~and spaced apart side walls~~, which comprises
- (a) a pair of opposed clamping elements adapted to be received through said restricted entrance and having inner end portions thereof engageable with portions of said side walls spaced farther apart than at said entrance,
 - (b) a support body for movably supporting said clamping elements ~~plates~~ with said inner end portions thereof exposed for reception in said slide track channel,
 - (c) a fulcrum element positioned between and engaging said opposed clamping elements closely adjacent the inner end portions thereof,
 - (d) outer portions of said clamping elements extending outward from said fulcrum element for a predetermined distance, and
 - (e) means for applying closing pressure to the outer portions of said clamping elements to forcibly urge the inner portions thereof to pivot outwardly against side wall portions of said slide track channel to lock said mechanism against sliding movement in said channel.

2-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A mechanism for secure engagement of slideable elements in ~~dovetail or similar tracks~~ a slide track having sidewalls with

inner portions thereof spaced farther apart than outer portions thereof comprising

(a) a pair of clamping plate elements disposed in face-to-face relation and having upper and lower portions and a pivot between said upper and lower portions;

(b) said clamping plate elements having lower edges adapted to project outwardly at a predetermined angle to engage ~~interior~~ inner portions of said sidewalls of ~~[[a]]~~ said slide track; and

(c) a means adapted to forcibly converge upper portions of said clamping plate elements towards one another to forcibly urge said lower edges securely outward against the ~~interior~~ inner portions of said sidewalls of a slide track.

7. (currently amended) A mechanism according to claim 6, wherein said pivot is a spacer element ~~[[is]]~~ positioned between said clamping plate elements at a predetermined distance adjacent to said lower edges.

8. (currently amended) A mechanism according to claim 7, wherein

(a) said spacer element comprises a wider portion and a narrow portion, and

(b) said spacer element is rotatably mounted between said clamping plate elements to facilitate installation and removal of said mechanism.

9. (currently amended) A mechanism according to claim 7, wherein a lever means is pivotally movable into a position to engage ~~said upper portions~~ and converge said upper portions.

10. (new) A clamping mechanism for securing a slideable member to a slide track, wherein the slide track has a channel with a restricted entrance opening and spaced apart side walls, which comprises

(a) a pair of opposed clamping elements adapted to be received through said restricted entrance and having inner end portions engageable with said sidewalls,

(b) a support body for movably supporting said clamping elements with said inner end portions thereof exposed for reception in said slide track channel,

(c) a fulcrum element positioned between and engaging said opposed clamping elements closely adjacent the inner end portions thereof,

(d) outer portions of said clamping elements extending outward from said fulcrum element for a predetermined distance, and

(e) means for applying closing pressure to the outer portions of said clamping elements to forcibly urge the inner portions thereof outwardly against sidewall portions of said slide track channel,

(f) said fulcrum element including first portions engaging said clamping elements and second portions supported in said support body,

(g) said first portions being of non-circular shape and said second portions being of generally circular shape.

11. (new) A clamping mechanism according to claim 10, wherein

- (a) said support body comprises a floor plate portion and a pair of spaced apart, outwardly extending sidewalls,
- (b) said clamping elements being supported between said side walls and having portions extending through and beyond said floor plate portion, and
- (c) the circular second portions of said fulcrum element being rotatably supported in said floor plate portion.

12. (new) A clamping mechanism according to claim 11, wherein

- (a) a locking lever is pivotally mounted on said support body, in a position generally outward of said clamping elements and being pivotable into a position contacting said clamping elements, and
- (b) said locking lever having surfaces engaging outer portions of said clamping elements for urging said outer portions in a closing direction upon pivoting movements of said locking lever in a direction toward said clamping elements.

13. (new) A clamping mechanism for securing a slideable member to a slide track, wherein the slide track has a channel with a restricted entrance opening and spaced apart side walls, which comprises

- (a) a pair of opposed clamping elements adapted to be received through said restricted entrance and having inner end portions engageable with said sidewalls,
- (b) a support body for movably supporting said clamping elements with said inner end portions thereof exposed for reception in said slide track channel,

- (c) a fulcrum element positioned between and engaging said opposed clamping elements closely adjacent the inner end portions thereof,
- (d) outer portions of said clamping elements extending outward from said fulcrum element for a predetermined distance, and
- (e) means for applying closing pressure to the outer portions of said clamping elements to forcibly urge the inner portions thereof outwardly against side wall portions of said slide track channel,
- (f) said fulcrum element comprising a wider portion and a narrower portion, and
- (g) said fulcrum element being rotatably mounted in said support body for selectively positioning said wider or narrower portions between said clamping elements.